Remarks

Claims 1-3, 8-15, and 19-34 are in the case. Claims 4-7 and 16-18 have been cancelled.

New claims 24-34 are presented for consideration. No new matter has been added by the

amendments.

The Examiner objected to Claims 7, 8, 18 and 19. Applicant has elected to amend

independent claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 7-8 and independent claim 13 to

incorporate the subject matter of claims 18-19. Accordingly, it is believed that claims 1-3, 8-15

and 19-23 are in condition for allowance.

Applicant requests consideration of new claims 24-34. Support for the new claims is found in the drawings and in at least the following portions of the published patent application:

claims 24 and 30 – ¶\$7-58; claims 25, 31 – ¶\$8; claims 26-27 and 32-33 – ¶ \$7; claims 28 and

34 - ¶65; claim 29 - original claim 8.

Applicant respectfully requests issuance of a notice of allowance as to claims 1-3, 8-15

and 19-34. It is believed that this response has been filed within the applicable time period for

responding and that no extension of time is therefore required, but if an extension is required, applicant hereby requests an appropriate extension of time. The Commissioner is authorized to

charge Deposit Account No. 502795 for any fees that are due.

Respectfully submitted,

/Shawn D. Sentilles/ Shawn D. Sentilles, Reg. No. 38,299

WRIGHT MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY, INC.

(USPTO Customer No. 37902) 5677 Airline Road

Arlington, TN 38002 Telephone: 901-867-4314

Dated: September 7, 2006

SN 10/696,459 6